

Today in Corps history:
Sept. 12, 1917: General John J. Pershing selected the 7th Marine Company to guard his headquarters in France.

Source: Marine Corps History
FAST FACT



Local: Hispanic Heritage Month honors culture, see Page 4

Feature: Red Cross, NDC train volunteer dental assistants, see Page 4

District News: Poolee donates to Locks of Love, see Page 3

THE BOOT

“We Make Marines”

Inside



Girls Soccer: Charge conquers Breakers 4-1

The Charge defeated the Breakers 4-1 in the Marine Corps Community Services-South Carolina 8-10 Girls Youth Soccer League at the Laurel Bay soccer fields Saturday ...

For more, see Page 5.

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Serving the Marines and Sailors of MCRD/ERR Parris Island, S.C.

September 12, 2003

Local News

HUNTER EDUCATION COURSE OFFERED

The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources is hosting a free Hunter Education Course Sept. 20 from 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Port Royal Fire/Police Station. To learn more, call 873-3796.

AMVETS SET TO HOST POW/MIA B-FAST

The Amvets of Post 70 at 1831 Ribaut Rd. in Port Royal, are hosting a prayer breakfast Sept. 19 at 7:30 a.m.

Everyone is invited and registration is required by Wed.

DOG LOST ON PARRIS ISLAND, HELP NEEDED

Kiwi, a black and white, 16-lb., Sheltie Sheep dog, ran away from the Vet's office Aug. 27. The dog is still somewhere on base and the owners are looking for it. Staff Sgt. Eric Gillespie, the dog's owner, said it looks like "a miniature lassie." The dog is wearing no identification. If you spot the dog, please contact the Gillespies at 575-4825 or 228-2637.

PIOSC TO HOST ANNUAL WELCOME SOCIAL

The Parris Island Officer's Spouses' Club will host their Welcome Aboard Social Wed., at the Beaufort Yacht and Sailing Club from 7 - 9 p.m.

For more information, contact Anne O'Neil at 522-0312

Sports

VARSITY SOCCER TEAM TRYOUTS TODAY

The Tri-Command Varsity Soccer Team will have try-outs tonight at 5 p.m. at the Depot soccer fields for active-duty players.

To find out more information about the team, call Jeff Epstein at 228-1542.

INTRAMURAL BOWLING BEGINS NEXT WEEK

Intramural bowlers roll into action Tuesday with the start of the league. It's not too late to sign up for the season. To learn more, contact Master Sgt. Leonard Akemon at 228-3846.

On the Net

REMEMBER FREEDOM WITH AD COUNCIL

For many Americans, freedom is something taken for granted. But like anything worth having, it's important to consider how life would be different without it. Check out the Ad Council's Campaign for Freedom at www.rememberfreedom.org.

Out in Town

SOUTHERN CIRCUIT FILM FESTIVAL IN TOWN

"Searching for Paradise" by Myra Paci will be shown tonight at 7:30 p.m. at the Lady's Island Cinema and Saturday at Coligny Theatre on Hilton Head Island, S.C. at 1 p.m. The film stars Chris Noth from Law and Order and Sex in the City. Admission is \$5 and is sponsored by the Arts Council of Beaufort County.

To learn more, call 379-ARTS.

Weather



Friday
Scat. T-Storms
Hi 84 Low 68
Saturday
Iso. T-Storms
Hi 86 Low 70
Sunday
Iso. T-Storms
Hi 87 Low 70

Wax on, wax off ...



Recruit Joshua Millat, Platoon 3081, Mike Co., 3rd RTBn., shines the H&SBn. bell in front of Bldg. 144 Tuesday. Millat, a native of Canton, Ohio, and two other recruits from his platoon were assigned to H&SBn. Supply as a working party during their "Team Week" of training.

Cpl. Alisha R. Fitzgerald

MCX changes face, adds special focus on its customer service

CPL. THOMAS PERRY

STAFF WRITER

The Marine Corps Exchange is scheduled to undergo many changes during the upcoming weeks in connection with their new Spirit and Pride Campaign. Along with the new campaign, the MCX has instituted a new "Corps Brands, Core Values" slogan, a new logo, and has refocused its customer service efforts.

"We have always been very aware that our existence relies on our customers," said Sam Bates, the manager of the MCX on the Depot. "We want to improve merchandise selection, product value as well as the quality of service the Marines, sailors and their families receive."

Marine Corps Exchange officials do not want their new program to be perceived as just a bunch of empty words. There interest is totally focused on customer satisfaction.

"Corps Brands, Core Values," isn't just another slogan - it's a total commitment from us," said MCX officials in a Sept. 4 press release. "Our commitment will not only provide our customers with the best in brand names, but make sure those brands represent a real value."

That 'real value' of an item will be

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- Sam Bates, the manager of the MCX on the Depot

clearly evident to all shoppers because the best deals in the store will be marked with "Another Corps Value" sign, which is designed to distinguish the best values in each store.

"Those signs will indicate the items brought at the lowest price possible - guaranteed," said Bryan Driver, Plans, Policy and Analysis Branch, Personal and Family Readiness Division at Headquarters Marine Corps. "You can find these items at any Marine Corps Exchange, and all

come with a 14-day price match guarantee."

The MCX has always offered its customers reasonable prices, but who could ever object to an improved product for less money.

"I have shopped at the PX for more than 35 years," said Robert Clarke, a 61 year-old retired Marine and current Beaufort resident. "I've always been happy with the prices. If they're planning to lower them even more, they are going to get more of business."

Clarke added that he was always very impressed with the high level of customer service from the MCX employees.

The MCX has always strived to offer Marines and their families the best deals possible, but their new goals are focused on making a personnel connection with their patrons.

"The Marine Corps Exchange is proud to serve the Marine family, and we wanted to develop a recognizable logo that ties to that pride," said Driver. "The new logo was designed to differentiate the MCX from other stores and show our Marine families that this is their store. The new logo is blue with a red stripe, representing the Marine's dress blues trousers with the honored blood stripe."

WMA thanks disabled vets for selfless service

LANCE CPL. JENNIFER BROFER

STAFF WRITER

Members of the Phyllis Alexander Chapter of the Women Marines Association found true meaning in the words "The price of freedom is visible here" when they visited the Ralph Johnson Medical Center Department of Veteran Affairs in Charleston Saturday, to provide company and a home-cooked meal for the disabled veterans.

Walking down the corridor scattered with American flags, the women went from room to room to visit with each of the veterans, in an effort to uplift their spirits and brighten their day.

The women also thanked the veterans for their military valor, which might have otherwise gone unrecognized.

"You're looking much better!" exclaimed Linda Priest, a

volunteer and former Marine, taking note of the improvement in one veteran's condition since she saw him last.

The veteran, struggling to speak, simply gave a warm smile to the women for livening up his morning, which might have otherwise been dismal and lonely.

The volunteers' presence and encouraging words seemed to lift the spirits of the residents, even those who couldn't speak at all.

"I like to see a friendly face," wrote William Bestermann, a deaf Army veteran whose only way of communicating was by using a children's magnet writer toy.

For many of the veterans, seeing a few friendly faces seemed to dim the fact that they were too weak to get out of bed that day, or were unable to get around without the use of a prosthetic leg, a wheelchair or a



Lance Cpl. Jennifer Brofer

Staff Sgt. Amber Beegle, a drill instructor for Support Bn. and a Women Marines Association volunteer, assists Olan Skipper, a retired Marine, in playing a game of Bingo during the Phyllis Alexander Chapter of the WMA's visit to the Ralph Johnson Medical Center Department of Veteran Affairs Saturday. The women visited the disabled vets to feed them a home-cooked meal, share a few laughs and play a game of Bingo, a community service they will continue to provide the first Saturday of every month.

rolling chair device made of PVC pipe.

"A friendly face, a little smile and a kind gesture goes a long way," said Floyd Mattell, an Air

Force veteran who has to use a wheelchair after losing his right leg to gangrene.

Even the nurses who work at the VA hospital notice a change

in the residents' behavior whenever the volunteers come to visit.

"It really does brighten up

See WMA, Page 3

MCL seeks members for area chapter

LANCE CPL. JENNIFER BROFER

STAFF WRITER

In an effort to charter a Marine Corps League Detachment aboard the Depot, a free Kick-Off Social will be held Sept. 17 at Traditions in the Officers' Lounge starting at 5 p.m. for all prospective members.

All Marines and Fleet Marine Force Navy Corpsman, past and present, are invited to attend the first of a series of socials, designed to gauge interest and identify potential members for the detachment.

"Many Marines serve honorably and return to their community to work and serve. Since we make Marines here, it is only fitting that Marines serving here and Marines that have returned to this area to live and work should form the Marine Corps League Detachment," said Master Gunnery Sgt. Donald R. Garland, Depot supply chief.

The purpose of the Marine Corps League, which was founded in 1923 by Maj. Gen. John A. Lejeune., is to preserve the traditions and promote the interests of the United States Marine Corps, said Garland.

"[Its purpose is] to band together those who are serving and those who have served honorably in fellowship, so they may effectively promote the ideals of American freedom and democracy ... to fit its members for the duties of citizenship and to encourage them to give of themselves and serve as ably as citizens as they have served their nation under arms," he said.

The League demonstrates this by participating in various community-based programs like

See MCL, Page 4

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-Master Gunnery Sgt. Donald R. Garland, Depot supply chief